



Request for City Council Committee Action from the Office of the City Coordinator

Date: April 9, 2012

To: Council Member Betsy Hodges, Chair, Ways and Means Committee

Referral to: City Council

Subject: **Contract with St. Stephen's Human Services, Inc. for Homeless Outreach Services – Contract C-24688**

Recommendation: That the proper City officers be authorized to execute Amendment #5 to Contract C-24688 with St. Stephen's Human Services, Inc. to include the following changes: extend the contract period to December 31, 2012; and to increase the total contract amount by \$150,000 for services provided in 2012. No additional appropriation is required.

Previous Directives:

The Mayor's 2007 Adopted Budget included \$100,000 for homeless outreach services. St. Stephen's was awarded a contract after a request for proposal process.

The Mayor's 2008 Adopted Budget also included \$100,000 for homeless outreach services.

The Mayor's 2009 Adopted Budget increased the amount for homeless outreach services to \$150,000 to add an outreach worker. This amount was included in the 2010 – 2012 budgets.

Department Information

Prepared by: Cathy ten Broeke, Homelessness Coordinator
Howard Blin, Community Engagement Manager

Approved by:
David Rubedor, Neighborhood and Community Relations Director _____

Jayne Khalifa, Interim City
Coordinator _____

Presenters in Committee: Howard Blin

Reviews

- Permanent Review Committee (PRC): Approval Date: April 23, 2007

Financial Impact

- Action is within current budget for Neighborhood and Community Relations Department.
- Action is within the Business Plan for Neighborhood and Community Relations Department.

Community Impact

- The contract furthers the City Goal of *A Safe Place to Call Home – housing, health and safety*

Supporting Information

The Street Outreach program at St. Stephen's Human Services began in October 2007 as part of the *Heading Home Hennepin Plan to End Homelessness*. St. Stephen's conducts outreach to individuals and families living in places in Minneapolis not meant for human habitation. Prior to the street outreach program, the people served were often in regular contact with law enforcement. The program has fostered a coordinated outreach system involving the Minneapolis Police Department, criminal justice, social service agencies, faith communities, businesses and neighborhood organizations.

Recent highlights of the program include:

- Housing over 350 people since October 2007
- Reducing street homelessness by 40 percent since 2010. The number of people counted as unsheltered was 204 in January 2012, down from 300 in 2011 and 341 in 2010.
- Reducing crime in downtown. The outreach team is a key part of the Downtown 100 effort which reported a 78 percent reduction in offenses by top offenders.
- Partnering with the Downtown business community. In its Downtown Minneapolis 2025 Strategic plan, the Downtown Council has committed to ending street homelessness.

The overall goal of the program is to provide services that change behavior rather than move the homeless person into a cycle of police, jail, and streets.